Rise in Prices of Chemical Fertilizers

@@1795. SHRI S. S. SURJEWALA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleaesd to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the use of chemical fertilizers have fallen after decontrol on account of sky high prices of the decontrol commodity;

(b) whether the price of D.A.P. Fertilizer has been increased 3 folds after decontrol;

(c) whether it is likely to result in decrease in the agriculture production;

(d) whether Government are aware of the resentment prevailing among the farmers; and

(e) if so, the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to mitigate the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (c) As per reports received from some of the State Governments, the price of DAP which was Rs. 4680/- per tonne before decontrol, now ranges between Rs. 6500—7510/- (with concession). Agricultural production and fertilizer consumption is dependent on several factors including seasonal conditions. Total consumption of fertiliser during the current Rabi can be assessed only after the season is over.

(d) and (e) In order to cushion the impact of rise in prices of decontrolled fertilisers, the Government have senctioned Rs. 340 crores to provide a concession of Rs. 1000/- per tonne to farmers on DAP, MOP etc. In addition, an amount of Rs. 500 crores has been sanctioned to State Governments as assistance on schemes for small/marginal farmers. Procurement prices for Kharif crops have also been raised substantially.

Rise in Prices of Fertilizers

@@@1796. SHRI N. E. BALARAM :
SHRI GAYA SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of fertiliser have increased considerably following the implementation of JPC report on Fertiliser Pricing;

(b) if so, the details of the prices of fertilisers before the decontrol and as on date; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) :

(a) The prices of phosphatic and potassic fertilisers have increased after their decontrol but the prices of nitrogenous fertilisers has decreased by 10% with effect from 25th August, 1992.

(b) As per reports received from some State Governments, the prevailing prices of important phosphatic and potassic fertilisers are as follows :—

(Rs. per tonne)

Product	Prior to decontrol	After decontrol (with concession)
Di-Ammonium Phosphate	4680	6500-7510
Muriate of Potash	1700	4576-5490

(c) In order to cushion the rise in prices of decontrolled fertilisers, the Government have approved a provision of Rs. 340 crores for providing concession to the farmers @ Rs. 1000/- per tonne for DAP and MOP procurement prices for kharif crops have been raised substantially. Rs. 500 crores have been sanctioned to State Governments for schemes to assist small and marginal farmers.

@@Previously unstarred Question 525, transferred from 26-11-92.

@@@Previously unstarred Question 532, transferred from 26-11-92.